Fayetteville State University's Honors Program in Computer Science

The purpose of the Honors Program in Computer Science is to allow exceptionally able, ambitious, and self-motivated students to do independent, original work, as well as to pursue further study in the field of language and literature.

1.) ***Admission.*** Students majoring in Computer Science must complete an *Application for Admission* into the Honors Program (uncfsuhonors.edu), earn a minimum of 12 semester hours at FSU, and have a cumulative Grade Point Average of 3.2. Applications are accepted only in the spring semester. In addition, the student must secure two letters of recommendation (one of which must be from a college faculty) and write a 250-500 word essay. Admission is based on the student's demonstrated Honors potential at FSU. Transfer students must not have more than 60 semester hours.

2.) ***Courses.*** A grade of "B" or better is required to earn honors credit for the course. (Failure to earn honors credit would not prevent a student from earning course credit with a final grade of "C" or "D"). The department requires that each student sign a contract for each honors course in the major. The contract explains the extra assignments and projects for the honors students enrolled in the course. To maintain eligibility to enroll in honors courses (or seek honors credit in regular classes), students must maintain a minimum cumulative 3.2 Grade Point Average with at least 12 earned hours per semester. Students must complete at least four courses designated as Honors in the University College.

3.) **Service Learning Experiences, Events, and Other Extracurricular Activities.** Students in Honors Computer Science are assigned a departmental Honors Coordinator, who will design appropriate service learning experiences (internships, cooperative education, Study-Abroad, student conferences, etc.) in the program.

4.) **Certification Requirements**. To graduate with Honors in Computer Science, a student must complete 21 to 24 hours of honors credit, 3 of which are at the University College level, and 18 of which are in the major or upper division. The Computer Science honors student must complete the six honors courses from the following courses in the major:

CSC 220	Data Structures and Algorithms
CSC 303	Computer organization and Architecture II
CSC 322	Programming Languages
CSC 332	Theory of Computation
CSC 380	Data Communications and Computer Networks
CSC 390	Topics in Computer Science
CSC 431	Operating Systems I
CSC 434	Artificial Intelligence
CSC 470	Software Engineering

In consultation with the department Honors coordinator and the Honors Program director, the student must successfully complete at least three hours of independent research at the Honors level (part of the 18 hours) and write an honors thesis that is approved by two Computer Science faculty and the Honors Program. The student must successfully defend the Honors thesis based on research. Students who participate in Study-Abroad may earn six credit hours toward their degree, thus reducing the 21-24 Honors credit expectation by six hours.

Department Approval
Date_____

Honors Program Approval
Date_____